

Introduction

One of the remarkable benefits of living in the Village is our public safety services. Even though we have only slightly more than 700 homes, we have our own locally controlled police force patrolling our streets and our own 24/7 communications center.

As a community, we greatly benefit not just from having these outstanding public safety resources devoted to protecting us 24/7, but also from having community control over these critical services.

Topics for tonight:

1. **Public Safety Committee** -- Our Committee serves as a citizens advisory board to the Board of Managers and to the Chief. We also serve as a liaison to the Bethesda District of the Montgomery County Police. Our members are: Oliver Davidson; Peter Kilborn; Betty O'Connor; and Lisa Sanders. We are looking for new members to join our Committee. If you are interested, please let me, Chief Fitzgerald or Shana know.

2. **Lock Your Car** -- There is one thing everyone can do to improve our collective welfare. That is to lock your cars at night. Even though, as the Chief has reported, there was a significant reduction in thefts last year, we still have way too many nighttime thefts from unlocked cars. These thefts are not significant in terms of dollar value, but, by leaving our cars unlocked at night, we are creating the

potential for far more serious crimes and we are putting everyone at risk. Please lock your cars at night.

3. Call if Anything Arouses Suspicion -- Call the police immediately when you see or hear anything suspicious. Residents are sometimes reluctant to call the police (or delay calling) for various reasons. Our police department wants to hear from you right away when something happens so that they can respond and investigate whatever you've seen or heard. A successful night of property crime emboldens the thieves to come back to the Village and commit their crimes again. Call the police. That's what they're here for. For emergencies, call 911. For anything else (including any suspicious activity), call the Communications Center at (301) 654-7300.